on the underside of the tank designated by the marine inspector must be removed at the time of the test so the marine inspector may determine the external condition of the tank.

(h) *Pneumatic tests.* Pressure vessels that were pneumatically tested before being stamped with the Coast Guard Symbol must be thoroughly examined internally and externally biennially at the regular inspection for certification except in those instances where the inspection interval is prescribed otherwise, by the specific regulations applicable to the product carried, in subchapter D. (Tank Vessels), subchapter I (Cargo and Miscellaneous Vessels), or subchapter I–A (Mobile Offshore Drilling Units) of this chapter. For those tanks whose design precludes a thorough internal or external examination, the thickness must be determined by a nondestructive method acceptable to the Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection.

(i) *Safety valves on pressure vessels.* The setting of safety valves or relief valves on all pressure vessels except cargo tanks, shall be checked by the marine inspector at each regular inspection for certification. Cargo tank safety or relief valves shall be checked at the interval required in subchapter D (Tank Vessels) or I (Cargo and Miscellaneous Vessels) of this chapter, as appropriate.

[CGFR 68–82, 33 FR 18890, Dec. 18, 1968, as amended by CGFR 69–127, 35 FR 9980, June 17, 1970; CGD 73–251, 43 FR 56801, Dec. 4, 1978; CGD 77–147, 47 FR 21811, May 20, 1982; CGD 86–033, 53 FR 36024, Sept. 16, 1988; CGD 83–043, 60 FR 24782, May 10, 1995; CGD 95–028, 62 FR 51202, Sept. 30, 1997; USCG–1999–6216, 64 FR 53225, Oct. 1, 1999]

Subpart 61.15—Periodic Tests of Piping Systems

§ 61.15–1 Scope.

In conducting hydrostatic tests on piping, the required test pressure shall be maintained for a sufficient length of time to permit an inspection to be made of all joints and connections. The setting of the relief valve or safety valve will be considered as establishing the maximum allowable working pressure of the system.

[CGFR 68–82, 33 FR 18890, Dec. 18, 1968, as amended by CGD 95–012, 60 FR 48050, Sept. 18, 1995]

§ 61.15–5 Steam piping.

(a) Main steam piping shall be subjected to a hydrostatic test equal to 1¼ times the maximum allowable working pressure at the same periods prescribed for boilers in § 61.05–10. The hydrostatic test shall be applied from the boiler drum to the throttle valve. If the covering of the piping is not removed, the test pressure shall be maintained on the piping for a period of ten minutes. If any evidence of moisture or leakage is detected, the covering shall be removed and the piping thoroughly examined.

(b) All steam piping subject to pressure from the main boiler should be subjected to a hydrostatic test at a pressure of 1¼ times the maximum allowable working pressure of the boiler after every five years of service except as otherwise provided for in paragraph (a) of this section. Unless the covering of the piping is removed, the test pressure must be maintained on the piping for ten minutes. If any evidence of moisture or leakage is detected, the covering should be removed and the piping thoroughly examined. No piping with a nominal size of 3 inches or less need be hydrostatically tested.

(c) The setting of safety and relief valves installed in piping systems shall be checked by the marine inspector at each inspection for certification.

[CGFR 68–82, 33 FR 18890, Dec. 18, 1968, as amended by CGD 73–248, 39 FR 30839, Aug. 26, 1974; CGD 83–043, 60 FR 24782, May 10, 1995]

§ 61.15–10 Liquefied petroleum gas piping for heating and cooking.

(a) Leak tests as described in paragraph (b) of this section shall be conducted at least once each month and at each inspection for certification. The tests required at monthly intervals shall be conducted by a licensed officer of the vessel or qualified personnel acceptable to the Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection. The owner, master, or person in charge of the vessel shall keep records of such tests showing the dates when performed and the name(s)